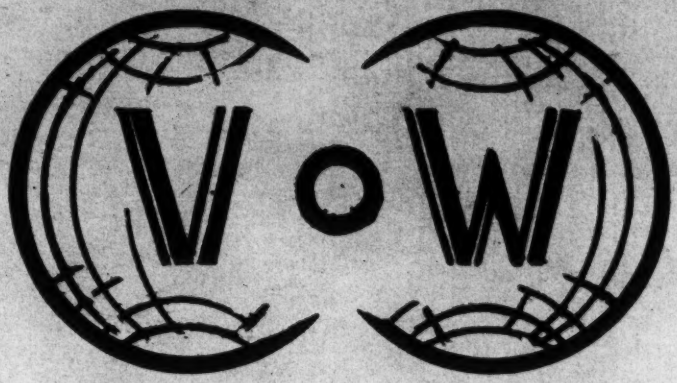
VOICE OF WOMEN



VOĈO DE VIRINOJ

The bi-weekly newsletter, published by VOICE OF WOMEN,
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1960 ISSUES

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

This first edition of "Vow" is reaching you a little later than we had hoped, and for that we apologize. However, the work of setting up our national office, and generally planning and preparing for action in the Fall, took a week or two longer than we had estimated.

Three months ago VOICE OF WOMEN was an idea, stimulated by the collapse of the Summit Conference. Now we have a national office and I cannot emphasize too strongly that this dramatic development is entirely due to you - every one of you who is receiving this first issue of "Vow". The letters you have written to us are proof that many women in this country are fully aware of the dangers that threaten the survival of civilization in our time, and that they are eager to be brought together and to work together for the preservation of peace.

In opening an office, and making VOICE OF WOMEN a full-time concern for many of us, we have kept faith with the spirit we found in your letters. We ask you to keep faith with us. Support us with your subscriptions to this newsletter. Many of you have not become paid-up members yet, although we know you are interested. It's easy to let these things slide, I know, but we have no other source of income to sustain VOICE OF WOMEN. So take a moment this week to mail in your $2.00, won't you? And try to enlist some of your friends as well. We need the support of a very large membership to carry out the objectives we have in mind.

Our forthcoming plans include the organising of a mass petition from the women of the world, initiated by Canadian women, to take before the General Assembly of the United Nations, asking for the institution of World Peace Year (a tentative title). In order to decide exactly on the purpose and activities of World Peace Year, we would like to bring together some of the leading women of the world for a "Summit Conference" here in Canada. Such a conference of women has often been suggested, but no-one so far has said, "Let's do it!" This we would like to say - but we need you, and your friends, and their friends ..... to 'voice' an invitation so compelling that it cannot be overlooked.

Out hopes for VOICE OF WOMEN are ambitious - but then, as someone said, it's an ambitious bomb. If VOICE OF WOMEN grows as we think it can, we believe it can be an effective and creative force for peace. The coming month will be our testing time - and it all depends on you.

Josephine Davis

We have received many fine poems, reflecting in different ways the spirit of this nuclear age. We should like to bring some of these to your attention occasionally. We were particularly impressed by this prose poem, which we believe speaks most eloquently for 'nobodies' everywhere.

"CRY FROM A NOBODY"

by Horace Brown

This cannot be allowed to happen.

This Mother Earth, fairest of the Galaxy, cannot be allowed to destroy itself. It must not be consumed forever by the fires of a nuclear hell.

I am nobody, and I say this. You are nobody, and you must say this too. It must be said to those we have made somebody.

The world I love lies on the green crests of swelling seas, the delicate veins of a leaf, the evensong of birds, the colors of the sunset, the delighted laugh of a babe's first discovery of life.
It is not a world of rocket-rattling, of cynical diplomacy, of lies and deceit and spying and unfaith.

This is a world I never made.

There are more nobodies than there are somebodies. The pigments of the skin and the mother tongues may differ, the noses may not look alike, some may have more of this world's goods, some may be always hungry, some may go in fear.

But there is one common link: they are Humanity.
They walk, they talk, they breathe, they laugh, they love, they weep, the nobodies. They look up the high hills to the summit, and they yearn. Their hearts cry for what lies beyond the top.

Let their silence cease! Let the nobodies speak!

Man holds his destiny in his mind and heart and soul. The mind has harnessed the power of the sun. The stars beckon. The heart and soul cry out that the era of universal goodwill and plenty is for the taking.
It reqires only common-sense, faith and a sense of justice.
I no longer care who is right or who is wrong.
My one care is that skies shall not open in fissioned death, then close forever on what we could have made a brighter, fairer world for each and every one of us.
It need not be.
Say with one voice: this far and no farther.
This is a time for nobodies.
If it is not, there will be no other time.
Say it:
This cannot be allowed to happen.

GETTING TO KNOW US .... we invite you to meet the members of your Central Committee, and to learn why they are working for VOICE OF WOMEN

WHY LEADERSHIP IN "VOICE OF WOMEN" IS MY MOST IMPORTANT JOB

By Mrs. Helen Tucker, President

"What? Join another women's organization? There are too many already." That is not an infrequent reply to the question, "Are you going to join VOICE OF WOMEN?" And that was my first reaction too, for I was already president of the Peel County Branch of the U.N. Association, chairman of the UNA Committee for UNESCO and delegate to the Canadian Commission, a member of my church board of management, a lecturer for both day and night courses at the University and a homemaker - or at least a reasonably congenial companion to my husband, our two children now being married.

However, I now find myself the first president of VOICE OF WOMEN, a new organization, a national and perhaps international movement of women "To keep the peace." And it is my most important job, for peace must be kept right now, from week to week, or I won't have any other jobs at all, nor will our children, nor will you.

War today - nuclear, thermonuclear, germ - is one game which cannot be allowed to be played, even once. Yet confidence in war strength leads the world relentlessly on to the day when the game must be played out, unless somehow that confidence can be shaken and placed upon other concepts of security. Once you realize this, just being a citizen of a democratic country means making critical decisions about basic values and how one should be using his skills and his life. Many people living today have lived gloriously in war. Now is the time that we must live gloriously for peace.

In my thinking positive, affirmative living is the only real life there is. Hate, fear, distrust, bitterness are negative, and if they dominate life, must lead to strife and destruction of the individual and of the nation. Today they threaten our very world. Somehow this trend to war must be reversed. My convictions and my experience make my duty clear. I must use my skills, such as they are, to focus attention upon the only real issue there is - keeping the peace.

And I think the women of Canada are ready to choose faith rather than fear. Every day more of them are saying, "I want to add my voice to the VOICE OF WOMEN and speak out against nuclear bombs and war." I believe that the creative powers of the minds and hearts of the women of Canada and the world can be a positive force for peace. To help to mobilize this force is the most important job there is - and it can't wait. That's why I have been willing to give leadership to 'another organization.'

IN THE NEWS: Each issue, in this spot, we want to report to you what is being said about VOICE OF WOMEN 'in the news' in different parts of the country. Will you help us by sending in any news item or story on VOICE OF WOMEN that might appear in your local newspaper?

Women Call Out For Peace

Last week, a small news item announced the creation of an organization known as the Voice of Women. The movement was launched in Toronto, and it hopes to become international, with its aim the banning of nuclear weapons, and war in general. At the time, we did not pay too much attention to it, for such movements are not new. The Voice of Women, however, would appear to be much more articulate than other organizations which had set forth similar aims.

This week we have received a copy of a letter which apparently is being sent to every Canadian newspaper. Its purpose is to arouse Canadian public opinion against any effort to equip Canadian forces with nuclear weapons. "The spread of nuclear weapons statistically increases the chances of a nuclear war," the communication states. "If Canada joins the 'Nuclear Club,' why not India? Why not Norway, Denmark, and Sweden? Why not Africa?"

In the past, we have frequently written in similar vein, so that we have, in effect, endorsed in advance this effort by the Voice of Women. But we are not alone. External Affairs Minister Green, Opposition Leader Pearson, and CCF Leader Argue, have all encouraged the Voice of Women in its effort to arouse public sentiment against nuclear weapons. Certainly, if the world is to have peace, those who feel strongly enough about it must speak with as much determination as those who seek to promote armaments and war.

The cause of peace may well be lost simply by doing nothing. It has happened time and again in the past. We have witnessed movements such as this tumble before pressures which have often been disguised as patriotism. Yet such movements do express an urgent desire on the part of many people — we believe, the majority. Only those who stand to gain something out of war are constantly rattling the sabre. The Voice of Women deserves to be heard if for no other reason than it represents a spirit across the nation that is largely inarticulate.

The Voice of Women challenges Canada to renounce nuclear weapons. It is a challenge that Canada should accept, for never before has the world needed sane leadership as it needs it today. With nuclear weapons, Canada is part of the mad mob. Without them, this country can lead the world through the tortuous maze to peace.

An Editorial from the 'Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph'

BOOK SHELF ..... By Valerie Speirs

"VOICE OF WOMEN urges all women to stand together at this dark moment of history, and assert with one voice, There shall be no war."

Our initial feeling of hope must be followed, of course, by the realization that this is not a ready-made solution, but a steppingstone. The armaments race has proceeded unchecked to such a critical stage that we can no longer hope to eradicate its dangers with the simple cry "Stop!" We have reached the point where any move, however well intended, could upset the precarious balance of safety. If we are to succeed in the aims set forth in our Declaration, our first step must be to inform ourselves fully on all aspects of the world today - its history, its politics, its peoples, and its weapons.

We intend to review a series of books covering this wide range of pertinent topics, and we hope that you will find them both informative and interesting, for group discussion as well as for personal reading.

"FALLOUT: A STUDY OF SUPERBOMBS, STRONTIUM 90, AND SURVIVAL", edited by John M. Fowler (Basic Books $5.50)

Written by eleven recognized authorities in their respective fields, this book presents a wide variety of opinions concerning nuclear problems, in addition to essays on the construction of thermo-nuclear bombs, patterns of fallout, biological effects of radiation, and genetic effects. The following excerpt from Adlai Stevenson's foreword gives a good general picture of the subjects discussed in "Fallout":

> "Some of the realities of the Atomic Age are set forth in this book. They are spelled out in language plain enough for anyone to understand: even a layman begins to feel more at home - or less uncomfortably ignorant - on subjects which have seemed remote and mysterious. The scientists who have written it give us a rather detailed and clear picture of the anatomy of nuclear bombs and how they work: they clarify the peculiarities of radiation and the kinds of damage that fallout may be showing in our environment, ourselves and our children; they describe in factual but vivid terms what a nuclear war would be like; and they explain what the issues are in the stalemated negotiations on the banning of bomb tests and nuclear disarmament."

One of the conclusions which Fowler draws from the discussions in "Fallout" is that, "The voice that finally decides ... must belong to the great voting mass of the American people." Most members of VOICE OF WOMEN would find this a sound observation, but would hope the 'voice' belonges to an informed voting mass.

(N.B. This book can be obtained from Basic Books, 59 4th Ave., New York 3, N.Y., or from your public library).

VOICE OF WOMEN

In this section we shall bring you interesting views and opinions from members across the country.

In this first issue of 'Vow' we would like to share with you a letter we received from one of our distinguished Sponsors, Mrs. Lester B. Pearson, together with two others which we found particularly moving.

"I am indeed interested in VOICE OF WOMEN. I think it's a most imaginative and worthwhile project. If we, the women of the West, could succeed in reaching the women on the other side of the 'curtain' - i.e. Russia and China - with no political overtones, but only as mothers of young children whose lives or well-being are at stake under this terrible threat of atomic fall-out, not to mention bombs, I think we could start a chain reaction toward peace instead of war. Anyhow, it is certainly well worth a try.

I am sure many mothers (and grandmothers) in Canada feel helpless and horror-struck under the terrible threat that hangs over us, and would be anxious and enthusiastic to do that they could to stop it. I would be honoured and pleased to be an Honorary Sponsor of VOICE OF WOMEN and would like to do what I can to help.

Yours most sincerely
MARYON PEARSON"

This is from Mrs. B.A. in Quebec .....

"I'm a mother of three children. My oldest is sixteen. I'm writing to you from the heart about all this world tensions. My children are being taught to be at peace with their friends and family. My husband is a good, kind man. Why, why all this terrible talk of atomic warfare? I've spoken to some of my neighbours. They assure me of no great fear on their part and say I am getting nervous and should stop thinking - which I cannot do. Mostly everyone just goes along in a world of their own. I am just a mere woman among millions. But my heart tells me not to accept situations as they are."

And this is from a mother in Anaping, Ontario.

"My little girl is six months old. Her name is Eleanor Ann. Often when I rock her or when I'm feeding her, I think ahead to when she's grown up. I think of what she'll be like when she's a teen-ager or when she's ten years old. But each time the terrible thought of nuclear war crosses my mind. I want this fear to go, to completely disappear. I want to live and I want my baby to live, but how can we if I or my friends or everyone just sits around hoping that the two big forces do not bump and explode. It's serious - really serious - more than a lot of people will admit. I'm nineteen years old ....."

THIS WEEK'S CAMPAIGN

We ask you to do two things this week, both aimed at stimulating interest in VOICE OF WOMEN *and increasing membership.*

1) *Your Campaign Committee has already contacted every newspaper and radio and TV station in Canada, with a letter addressed to "The Women's Editor", telling them all about* VOICE OF WOMEN, *and asking for their support and co-operation as women with a "voice."*

   We now ask you all to write to your local newspaper and radio and TV stations. Address your letter to the women's columnist or commentator by name. Say you belong to VOICE OF WOMEN *and why – the sort of letters you've been writing to us and which, we assure you, have been a very great source of inspiration and encouragement in the organizing of the movement. Ask your local press, radio and TV women to help* VOICE OF WOMEN *develop in your area, and prove by your letters to them the growing desire of the women of Canada to work together for a safer world in which to raise our families.*

2) *Go through your Christmas card list, or telephone notebook, and send us a list of those friends and relatives you feel might be interested in hearing about* VOICE OF WOMEN. *We'll mail them our literature on your behalf. One member sent in 30 names – and from those contacts we have over 20 new members! We don't expect as much as that from everybody, but if all of us brought in even two or three new people, and they in turn brought in two or three more . . . it wouldn't be long before we were in a strong enough position to tackle the major projects in view – i.e. the petition to the U.N., and the "Summit Conference" of women.*

   If the women of this country are to take the lead in these matters, then we must be able to point to a membership in the hundreds of thousands before we can raise our "voice" beyond our own borders. It's up to you. You are the ones who have cared enough to write to us at the beginning. There's still a great deal of groundwork to be done, right at the community level, and only you can do it. We'll back you up as much as possible, but we can't talk to your friends and relatives as you can.

   So start talking, start writing and, above all, as Mr. Howard Green said to us when we consulted Government leaders in Ottawa, "Be persistent!"

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Group Development Committee: Any members interested in forming a group in their community, are asked to address their enquiries to this Committee at Room 204, 329 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont. An instruction kit is in process of preparation, and we hope to be able to handle your enquiries very shortly.

Speakers' Bureau: Any group requiring a speaker on the subject of VOICE OF WOMEN are asked to address their enquiries to "Speakers' Bureau", Room 204, 329 Bloor St. West, Toronto. We are preparing a Speaker's kit on VOICE OF WOMEN, and are in the process of contacting several like-minded organizations across the country, asking their help and co-operation in this phase of our work. We hope to be able to deal with your requests for speakers in the near future.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE: We are pleased to report that the "Women's Committee for the Control of Radiation Hazards" in Vancouver, has made available to us their bibliography for study groups, which they have compiled over the past two years. All this material would be of great interest to VOICE OF WOMEN members, and we are most grateful to the Women's Committee for their help. We are also delighted to be able to work in this way with such a vigorous and progressive group. Their fine work is well known and respected throughout British Columbia, and we look forward to more opportunities for combined activities.

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Any member wishing to exchange letter with an English-speaking correspondent overseas, is asked to contact Mrs. Pattie Tanner, R.R. 1, Markham, Ont.

Any member wishing to learn Esperanto, or to correspond in Esperanto, is asked to contact Mrs. Vilma Eichholz, Esperanto House, Oakville, Ont.
Mrs. Eichholz emphasizes that even a beginner can easily translate Esperanto with the aid of the 'Esperanto key' - and that she would be able to put members in touch with correspondents throughout the world.

We should point out that the purpose of international correspondence at the moment should be solely for the purpose of becoming better informed about life and peoples in other countries. Specifically, we should not wish to stimulate interest in VOICE OF WOMEN overseas until our organization is properly equipped to work internationally. This, of course, we hope to be able to do before too long.

NOTE - IMPORTANT: Any letters addressed to the above committees and, in fact, any letter to the national office requiring a personal answer, must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope. We're sorry, but our operating expenses at the moment cannot cover any extra mailings.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Watching the activities in the U.N. General Assembly these past few weeks, I wonder if your reactions have been similar to mine. Some stirring of national pride at our own Prime Minister's no-nonsense speech. A fervent 'amen' to Prime Minister Nehru of India, whose eloquent plea for better understanding truly echoed the deep desire of millions everywhere. But mostly an aching disappointment at such a blatant display of international strife and personal antagonisms. And mounting frustration that not a single women has appeared on the speaker's rostrum.

At this moment of crisis for the human race, when the fate of hundreds of millions of innocent people can be decided in seconds by a handful of men who appear to have nothing but contempt and distrust for each other: in this great forum where the most profound decisions must be made - decisions that go far beyond mere politics, but involve a whole new concept of international morals and ethics: at such a time, and in such a place, the woman's point of view is clearly considered to be of little importance. The successful family is one where the children are raised to healthy maturity through the balanced co-operative influence of mother and father. Do not these same principles apply in the councils of the world, where the family of man must attain maturity or perish?

We in 'Voice of Women' have great faith, ofcourse, in the unifying power of women. Imagine a woman at this session of the United Nations, for example, standing before the assembly with the authority to say, "I do not speak for any country, or any bloc of countries. I speak for the women of all countries - your wives, your mothers, your daughters. We stand together, and we say, 'Remove from us and from our children the horror of war.' It is imperative that solutions to the problems of the world be found without reversion to war or the threat of war. And we have these proposals to make for your consideration ....."

We believe this could happen, and that it would cut across international barriers and draw the world closer together than has ever been possible before. This is why we want a 'Summit Conference' of leading women of the world, to pave the way for such a petition as we have just outlined. You will notice that most of this issue of 'Vow' is more or less dedicated to the idea that women to have the power to achieve these things, and indeed have a responsibility to do so. You will find these thoughts echoed and expanded in this issue by Madame Pandit of India, Dr. Albert Schweitzer, and Canada's Margaret Aitken M.P.

We say to you again, as we did last time, that each one of you receiving this newsletter holds the key to the success or failure of 'Voice of Women', for you are the first members, and the roots from which we must grow in Canada. We can succeed. We must succeed.

Josephine Davis

IN THE NEWS: Many of you have written that you have read something about 'Voice of Women' in your local newspapers. Would you please send us clippings of these items, so that we can use the story in this section?

Between You And Me

MORE WOMEN AT TOP NEEDED FOR PEACE

By MARGARET AITKEN

A BRIEF came to members of Parliament recently under sponsorship of the Voice of Women and signed by Helen Tucker and Josephine Davis.

It was a declaration against nuclear war and a call "on all women of Canada to give leadership to the women of the world in such a protest."

The VOW claims that "construction, not destruction is the only way to a peaceful existence for all mankind and that the only activities that make sense in this nuclear age are those which focus on the preservation and development of civilization."

No one—man or women—can possibly argue with those sentiments.

Same Time

And what interested me especially was that on the same day I received the VOW brief, a publication reached me from England, also calling upon women to exert their influence against the man-made horrors that beset the world.

"Women Speaking" is title of the little publication . . . "for women and for their voice on world affairs so that women may become more aware of their tremendous potential power for good in the world, as a world wide group."

One of the editorials in this magazine is worth reproducing and may give encouragement to VOW. It is titled Women At The Summit . . .

"A correspondent to the Daily Mail suggested: 'If the Big Four would stay home and send their wives to a Summit Conference, perhaps with Lady Churchill in the chair, I am sure we should all stand a better chance of world peace.'

"In the 20th century it should be axiomatic that qualified women in sufficient numbers should be in such policy-making positions that no meetings of world import would lack the balance to be achieved only through the co-operation of men AND women bringing each their special qualities to bear on the problems under consideration."

All of which proves, the Voice of Women in Canada and Women Speaking in Britain are in accord. What the world needs is more women at the top.

from 'The Toronto Telegram'

Your Central Committee has been in touch with one of the Editors of 'Women Speaking', and we find that we are indeed in accord. We reproduce below the aims and purposes of 'Women Speaking', which are remarkably close to our own, and we look forward to future opportunities of working together with this British organization.

The aims and purposes of *Women Speaking* are: to provide a unifying periodical for women's activities and for their Voice on world affairs, so that Women may become more aware of their tremendous potential power for good in the world as a world-wide group; to encourage in women the recognition of the importance of their major roles, especially as the giver and preserver of life, as the first educator of the young child, and as the channel into Society of the gentler feminine qualities; to suggest to women that it is probably they who must lead in setting and upholding a high moral standard of integrity in the world; and to enable women, and through them, men, to become more aware of the pressing need to restore the essential balance in the world between the masculine and feminine energies and qualities.—*The bird of the spirit of Humanity cannot fly with only one wing.* (Vivekanada)

THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE MODERN WORLD

by H.E. Mme. VIJAYA LAKSHMI PANDIT

Note: Following our comments on the present U.N. General Assembly, we felt it particularly timely to bring to you these views of one of the world's leading figures - a woman who led India's first delegation to the United Nations, who has been India's Ambassador to the Soviet Union and the U.S.A., and who in 1953 was elected president of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The role of women today is a very significant one, for they can and should become links in a chain of understanding and friendship which binds the peoples of the world together. If these links are bright and strong, the future of humanity will be secure.

I do not look at problems from the so-called women's angle, because I believe there is only one angle from which all human problems should be viewed - that is the human angle. But I do believe that women have certain qualities which are greatly required today, qualities like tolerance, patience and perseverance, which are the result of the role woman has played for a long period - a role in which she has not been able to rise to her full stature. Suppression has helped to develop these qualities which should be used for the common good, now that we are free and equal partners of men. At this delicate period of world history these qualities can help in turning the balance from suspicion and hatred to trust and love.

It is, I think, a pity that relatively few women take a sufficient interest in world affairs and do not seem eager to use the many opportunities now open to them. There is an all too wide acceptance that world problems are the concern of statesmen and politicians whose job is to find the right solution. This is a wholly erroneous approach. Statesmen and politicians are not infallible nor do they have magic formulas. In fact, when seen at close quarters they are not always the supermen one is led to believe through newspaper publicity. They are ordinary mortals like the rest of us and depend on the common man and woman to help them. If each woman would assist in her own sphere to create the proper climate, the work of world leaders would surely yield results, for the seeds could then be planted in the right soil.

It is good to remind ourselves of the opening words of the UNESCO Charter which says, "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be built." Nuclear weapons will not build these defences. Women should consider this building one of their special responsibilities - for they have the opportunity of moulding young minds. Only in the mind can we really create the strongest, most permanent deterrent to war.

(Taken from an article appearing in "Women Speaking")

BOOK SHELF ..... by Dr. N.Z. Alcock

'Prescription for Survival' - Brock Chisholm (Columbia Univ. Press, 1957 - $2.00)

In a superb little (92 pp.) book Dr. Chisholm outlines for us in warm human terms the perils facing the world today. He then proceeds to show how each of us can come to grips with them and contribute, by day-to-day actions, to their solution. Largely it is a matter of educating our children to face the problems thrust upon them by a rapidly changing environment. Amid the welter of prejudices dividing humans from humans the changes in attitudes required are enormous, but there is a thread of optimism running through the book: there is a solution if only we will reach out and grasp it.

Chapter I deals with the nature of the crisis. "Never before could man destroy the human race ..... That is the situation now." And the reason we have reached this point in our evolution is that while man has developed such a power for killing as to make warfare obsolete, "we still have the aggressive pressures, the hostilities, the kinds of feelings that all through human history have led to warfare..." As if this is not enough, there is the population explosion, the 85,000 a day increase which threatens starvation to the lot of us on a scale never before experienced. It is not simply a question of growing food, it is rather that we have not learned to distribute it effectively. So too with our natural resources, while North America gobbles up one half of the total the rest of the earth does without. Small wonder there is hatred, race hatred, ready to erupt unless drastic steps are taken soon !

What steps ? In Chapter II the author tells us, with quiet authority stemming from his background as a psychiatrist steeped in international relations. We must bring up our children to have the confidence, the open-mindedness, the maturity to grapple with these world problems successfully. They must grow beyond their parents, emotionally and intellectually. Their concern must be not only for their family and their nation, but for mankind itself, for that is the canvas upon which the picture is being painted today. With remarkable simplicity Dr. Chisholm shows us the paths this training must follow.

In Chapter III this whole canvas of mankind is considered. And his scope is truly astonishing. He discusses the history of the United Nations Organization; but digresses for two pages to treat sin and its role in controlling and dominating people. He outlines how wars could once be won, and cannot now. Medical aid to under-developed countries, he shows, is far better accomplished with preventative medicine (the wholesale way) than by treatment (the retail way). Finally, the author returns to the U.N. to illustrate how it is hampered by peoples attitudes, "...the next steps have to be taken in the homes and the schools and the churches of the world."

Finally in Chapter IV the author deals with imagination, the necessary pre-requisite for looking at ourselves. But this chapter you must read for yourselves.

Weaknesses there may be in 'Prescription for Survival' but this reviewer has great difficulty in finding them. Indeed, when rereading it after a lapse of two years, it was a shock to realize how many of Dr. Chisholm's ideas and points of view had struck home to become in the interval 'my own'. Such is his power of persuasion. What more can be said but, buy the book, read it, and lend it to your friends.

PEACE OR ATOMIC WAR ?

by Dr. Albert Schweitzer

Since March 1, 1954, hydrogen bombs have been tested by the United States at the Pacific island of Bikini in the Marshall group and by Soviet Russia in Siberia. We know that testing of atomic weapons is something quite different from testing of non-atomic ones. Earlier, when a new type of giant gun had been tested, the matter ended with the detonation. That is not the case after the explosion of a hydrogen bomb. Something remains in the air, namely, an incalculable number of radioactive particles emitting radioactive rays.

The material collected, although far from complete, allows us to draw the conclusion that radiation resulting from the explosions which have already taken place represents a danger to the human race- a danger not to be underrated - and that further explosions of atomic bombs will increase this danger to alarming extent.

Although this conclusion has repeatedly been expressed, it has not, strange to say, influenced public opinion to the extent that one might have expected. Individuals and peoples have not been aroused to give to this danger the attention it unfortunately deserves. It must be demonstrated and made clear to them.

I raise my voice, together with those who have lately felt it their duty to act, through speaking and writing, in warning of the danger. My age and the generous understanding so many people have shown of my work permit me to hope that my appeal may contribute to preparing the way for the insights so urgently needed.

Those who think that the danger created by nuclear tests is small aminly take the air radiation into consideration, and persuade themselves to believe that the danger limit has not yet been reached.

The results of their arithmetic are not so reliable, however, as they would have us believe. Through the years the toleration limit for radiation has had to be lowered several times. In 1934 it was 100 radiation units per year. At present the limit is officially put at 5. In many countries it is even lower. Dr. Lauriston Taylor (USA), who is regarded as an authority on protection against radiation, holds - like others - that it is an open question whether there is such a thing as a harmless amount of radiation. He thinks that we can speak only of an amount of radiation which we regard as tolerable.

We are constantly being told about a 'maximum permissible amount' of radiation. What does 'permissible' mean? And who has the right to 'permit' people to be exposed to these dangers ?

When speaking about the risk of radiation we must consider not only the radiation coming from the outside, but also the radiation that gets into our bodies.

What is the source of this radioactivity?

The radioactive materials put into the air by nuclear tests do not stay there permanently. In the form of radioactive rain - or even radioactive snow - they fall to the earth. They enter the plants through leaves and roots and stay there. We absorb them by drinking milk from cows or by eating the meat of animals which have fed on it. Radioactive rain contaminates our drinking water.

The most powerful radioactive poisoning occurs in the areas between the Northern latitudes 10 degrees and 60 degrees, because of the numerous nuclear tests conducted mainly in these latitudes by the Soviet Union and the United States.

The radioactive elements absorbed over the years by the body are not evenly distributed in the cellular tissue, but deposited and accumulated at certain points. from these points internal radiation takes place, causing injuries to particularly vulnerable organs. What this kind of radiation lacks in strength is made up for by its longevity, working as it does for years, day and night.

It is a well-known fact that one of the most widespread and dangerous elements absorbed by us is Strontium 90. It is stored in the bones and from there emits its rays into cells of red bone marrow, where the red and white corpuscles are made. If the radiation is too great, blood diseases - fatal in most cases - are the result.

The cells of the reproductive organs are particularly sensitive. Even relatively weak radiation may lead to fatal consequences.

The most sinister aspect of internal as well as external radiation is that years may pass before the evil consequences appear. Indeed, they make themselves felt, not in the first or second generation, but in those that follow. Generation after generation, for centuries to come, will witness the birth of an ever-increasing number of children with mental and physical defects.

We must not disregard our responsibility to guard against the possibility that thousands of children may be born with the most serious mental and physical defects. It will be no excuse for us to say later that we were unaware of that possibility. Only those who have never been present at the birth of a deformed baby, never witnessed the whimpering cries of its mother, should dare to maintain that the risk of nuclear testing is small. The well-known French biologist and geneticist Jean Rostand calls the continuation of nuclear tests 'a crime into the future' (le crime dans l'avenir). IT IS THE PARTICULAR DUTY OF WOMEN TO PREVENT THIS SIN AGAINST THE FUTURE. IT IS FOR THEM TO RAISE THEIR VOICES AGAINST IT IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY WILL BE HEARD.

(Taken from the text of Dr. Schweitzer's broadcasts over Radio Oslo in 1957 and 1958. The Group Development Committee is planning to make the full text available to groups and speakers for study and discussion material).

WORKING TOGETHER

THIS WEEK'S CAMPAIGN

We were more than delighted by your response to our first campaign. We've been snowed under by lists of names for literature, and many of the women's editors in Canada have been hearing from you. This is an excellent beginning. We urge you particularly - even if you cannot participate in 'Voice of Women' in any other way - to take part in all the campaigns we put forward, for we hope that they will represent constructive steps towards our final objectives, they will serve to keep our activities before the public, and they represent our way of 'raising our voices' together.

This week, as we announced, we ask you to concentrate your efforts on the subject of fall-out shelters. There has been a great deal of emotionalism surrounding this whole question, and perhaps too many judgments have been formed on the basis of not enough information. Since we have members in every province, in both rural and urban districts, there is an excellent opportunity for 'Voice of Women' to make a national survey of the pro's and con's of fall-out shelters, based on a reasoned assessment of the facts as they exist in your district, and in your particular circumstances.

There seems good reason to believe that any benefit to be derived from fall-out shelters is determined to some extent by the district you live in - whether or not it is a likely target area, or how far away it is from possible target areas and so on. Also, in the event of a nuclear attack, the problems of survival can obviously not be met by fall-out shelters alone. There must surely be adequate Civil Defence arrangements to give expert advice and direction to those who might have survived the initial attack.

We ask you to call your local Civil Defence authority (your township or municipal offices will be able to direct you to the right people): and ask them the following questions - and any others you may feel are pertinent, of course: -

a) Do I live in a target area? If so, what are the chances of a fall-out shelter being effective?
b) What is the air raid warning signal in my district? How much warning will it give my family in the event of an attack?
c) Is there a plan to evacuate my district, should it become heavily contaminated by fall-out after an attack? If there is such a plan, how will I be informed that it is in operation?
d) Are there plans in my district for decontaminating food and water should supplies become radioactive after an attack?
e) How can I keep my home free of contamination by radio-active dust after an attack, particularly if there is no electricity?

Based on your findings to these questions, which we feel are basic to the problem of survival, we then ask you to fill in the questionnaire on the next page, and return it to Head Office as soon as possible. We also ask you to involve as many of your friends and relatives as possible in this survey. Tell them the results of your research, and tabulate their reactions as well. You may find there is no Civil Defence set-up in your district. This fact in itself should help you to form a reasoned opinion for our questionnaire. The important thing is that our survey should represent a large cross-section of opinion, based on the best possible information available. We will tabulate the results carefully, and release a report on the findings to the press and the appropriate authorities.

QUESTIONNAIRE (Answer yes or no)

1) I live in an urban district _____: I live in a rural district _____

2) I have checked with local Civil Defence as requested _____
There is no Civil Defence organization in my district _____

3) I have reported my findings to others _____ How many? _____

4a) I own my own home _____
b) On the basis of my findings, I and/or ____ friends who own homes intend to build a fall-out shelter _____ _____

5a) I live in an appartment building or rented accommodation _____
b) On the basis of my findings, I and/or _____ friends in similar circumstances would be willing to contribute towards the cost of a fall-out shelter in our place of residence _____

6) Briefly state reasons for decision, based on local conditions:

7) If fall-out shelters were provided free of charge, I would have one in my home : _____

COMMITTEE REPORT

CAN YOU FORM A VOICE OF WOMEN GROUP IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

A group development kit is being put together and should be ready for mailing soon after this issue of 'Vow' reaches you. Subscribers who have already indicated their interest in forming local groups will receive kits automatically. If you feel that a group could be organized in your community please write to the 'Voice of Women' office and a kit will be mailed to you. This kit should contain everything necessary to get your group started. However, no amount of printed material can sustain it as a functioning unit of 'Voice of Women'. Remember that enthusiasm is contagious and effort usually rewarding. The effectiveness of 'Voice of Women' will depend upon the thought and action of each group. The voice of Canadian women will be heard when every community from Vancouver B.C. to St. John's Nfld. has an active and vigorous group. Good luck.

Doris Dodds (Acting Chairman Group Development Cttee).

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF V.O.W.

WHY 'VOICE OF WOMEN' ?

It is a fact of nature that the female of the species is the giver of life and instinctively is endowed with concern for the preservation of life, at least of the young and helpless. All women share this concern for the family, the basic unit of society, regardless of the complex structures of politics and economics which evolve in highly developed civilizations. It is a rare female indeed who does not try to keep alive that to which she has given birth. Her tools are maternal urges to feed, to protect and to love. Her feminine contributions to life, if normal development is allowed, are love rather than hate, gentleness rather than might and co-operation rather than conflict. These are qualities of creation not destruction.

We are aware that both male and female attributes exist in every person. In the present world crisis we believe that there is great need of the dominance of the female attributes of co-operation and the quiet way.

Today, protection of the small and immediate family involves preservation of the collective family of mankind. The traditional role of might exercised by the male of the species is no longer valid, since to use the force now possible is to destroy the entire family of man. So we, the woman, must ask ourselves, 'What is our responsibility now under these new circumstances? Has nature not put an answer in our very being? Is the law of survival not within us, the instrument nature has provided to give birth and to preserve the race?'

Let us look within ourselves. Are there not powers here not yet mobilized? Not yet even recognized? The family has become large, very large indeed - a world wide family. Shall we have nothing to say when survival is at stake? Let us at least ask some pertinent questions when the very existence of a future and our children is in the balance.

Voice of Women has taken the decision. We shall strive to use the instincts and inherent skills of women to perceive the dangers to the family under the present threats of nuclear and biological warfare, and we shall mobilize the will of women to survive. We believe that it is time for women to speak up and to say to the leaders of the world, 'Let there be no war!' We have only to take the 'vow' together and other ways to resolve differences must be found. We can determine that 'where nations are suspicious, we can inspire trust': 'where men are inconsistent, we can bring purpose and integrity:' 'where there is cold war, we can create a climate of understanding, co-operation and sympathy.'

This is 'Why Voice of Women.' We believe it is the law of life that men must live together in peace or destroy themselves. The women must not allow the human family to disappear for want of knowing the law, speaking the law and living the law.

Helen Tucker

IN THE NEWS: This is the kind of local story that is helping V.O.W. grow across Canada. Mrs. Hill is the Ottawa Co-ordinator for Voice of Women. If you have 'reasons' like hers for joining V.O.W., why don't you call the women's columnist of your local newspaper and tell her your story. We think she'd be interested in hearing from you.

THE OTTAWA JOURNAL

MRS. HILL AND HER FOUR 'REASONS'

VOICE OF WOMEN, an organization promoting world peace has moved on to Ottawa where attractive and vivacious Mrs. E. M. (Woody) Hill is co-ordinator for the movement.

"Movement" is certainly the word. The women hope to spread their gospel through Canada and abroad—extending even behind the Iron Curtain. Voice of Women is not to be confused though, with any Communist-backed "peace" groups, Mrs. Hill said in an interview.

"It is definitely non-Communist, non-political and non-religionist." She added with a smile, "It is also non-profit". Her own budget has been bitten into to buy stationery and stamps for membership-increasing mail.

* * * *

FURTHER PROOF of the organization's above-board standing, is that the Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister Green and Opposition Leader Pearson have all given "VOW" their nod of approval after speaking with its leaders. Sponsors include such persons as Mrs. Pearson, Senators Fergusson, Hodges, Inman, Jodoin and Irvine, Mrs. Harry S. Quart and Mrs. Hazen Argue.

VOW hopes, possibly in 1961, to petition the United Nations to inaugurate a "World Peace Year" with the eventual aim of disarmament. They will seek signatures from women around the world for their petition.

* * * *

MRS. HILL HAS FOUR REASONS for her active partici- pation in VOW. They are her four sons: Michael, 12; Br 11; Bryan, 10 and Kerry, nine. "I had four brothers in last war and I don't want to raise my sons to go into another", she said.

She added, "The horrors of war are another reason . . . we have been at war so long . . . and there is so much enjoy in a peaceful world.

"Nuclear war, as they say, would be insanity, and don't think we can wait much longer to act. Women hold the family together so I'm sure they can help in the same respect nationally and internationally.

"With millions of women all over the world asking peace, whether the voice is quiet or loud, someone have to do something about it", she said.

Mrs. Hill's will probably be one of the quieter voices. She's clever and bright, but definitely not the militant type. Her interests are simple—membership in her sons' Pe Street Public School Home and School Association; ska with her sons at the school rink; swimming at the fa cottage at Constance Bay; entertaining friends at home and spending a quiet evening with her husband listening to records.

GETTING TO KNOW US .... we invite you to meet the members of your Central Committee, and to learn why they are working for VOICE OF WOMEN

'VOICE OF WOMEN' and the FUTURE OF MY CHILDREN

by Josephine Davis

In the last war my sister and I were children, and we lived in London all during the blitz. My parents - like their parents before them in the first world war - were able to do something for us. When the alert sounded, they were able to take us somewhere safe. As I remember those years, they weren't at all pleasant, but there was never a time when the thing we were facing seemed out of control. There were things we could do to protect ourselves, and if we were hurt, the injuries were something we could understand and cope with. Now I have two daughters of my own, and if this next war is allowed to happen, my husband and I have absolutely no confidence in our ability to protect them. In the last war my father built an air raid shelter in the backyard: it proved very effective against bomb blast. There is nothing my husband can build that would protect our children from the blast of a nuclear weapon. Even worse perhaps, there is no shelter on earth that would protect our children from the unimaginable horrors of the aftermath of a nuclear holocaust.

And even if the bomb never falls, it is an outrage to be trying to raise children in the shadow of nuclear war. The bomb is already doing its dreadful work in the abnormal fears and tensions it imposes on us all. How can we hope to raise the next generation to be happy, peacefull human beings under these conditions?

I believe the only chance we have to do something for our children is now. And the only way we can protect them is by concentrating all our skills and energies and willpower on some way of destroying the spectre of nuclear war. I believe that VOICE OF WOMEN gives me the opportunity to exercise a basic human right - the right to protect my young.

I further believe that VOICE OF WOMEN gives me the opportunity of expressing my faith in democracy, and the worth of the individual in a free and democratic society. Nothing annoys me more than those who say, 'Sure it all sounds fine, but what can one person do?' I maintain that anyone who says 'What can I do?' hasn't grasped the first essential of democracy, hasn't accepted his responsibility as a citizen in a democracy, and is, in fact, reacting to the problems which confront him in exactly the same way as he would under Communism, where the plea 'What can I do?' would have some validity.

Keeping the peace is everyone's responsibility. Making democracy work is everyone's responsibility. Both are vital to my children's future, and both are the objectives of VOICE OF WOMEN. That's why it's my answer to 'What can I do?'

'VOICE OF WOMEN' - SOME QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following are some of the answers to what we have found to be the most common questions about VOICE OF WOMEN. Much of this ground is covered in our Declaration and other literature, but here you will find it in a different form, which we hope will be useful to you in your discussions about VOICE OF WOMEN.

WHAT IS IT?

The VOICE OF WOMEN is a movement, national and international, to insist upon freedom from war and the threat of war. It asserts the faith that mankind is capable of finding solutions to its problems without resort to general warfare, and seeks to create a climate in which negotiation of peaceful solutions is possible.

HOW DID IT BEGIN?

A woman newspaper columnist (Lotta Dempsey of the Toronto Star) wrote an article in May 1960, at the time of the collapse of the Summit Conference in Paris, urging collective action by women against the threat of nuclear war. At the same time the Toronto Committee for Disarmament was planning a mass meeting in Massey Hall with the Rt. Hon. Philip Noel-Baker, Nobel Peace Prize winner, as speaker. A meeting between the chairman, Rabbi Abraham Feinberg, the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Helen Tucker, Lotta Dempsey and Mrs. Josephine Davis, resulted in a decision to present to the Massey Hall meeting on June 10th, 1960, the basis of a plan to mobilize women all over the world to reject the whole concept of nuclear warfare, and to work instead towards the creation of a better climate of understanding between nations in which peaceful solutions could be negotiated. This was done, and the response was so great that the plan was presented in a brief to the leaders of Government in Ottawa, since what was envisaged involved the United Nations and other countries. With the extraordinary encouragement of the leaders of all political parties in Ottawa, further organization resulted in the establishment of an initiating Central Committee: good coverage in the press, and on television and radio brought in enquiries from all over Canada: a statement was prepared called 'Declaration of VOICE OF WOMEN' and 'Operating Procedures'. Copies of these were sent out across the country to everyone who had expressed interest, with an invitation either to signify acceptance by mail or to attend a meeting in Toronto for the formal adoption of these documents. Thus VOICE OF WOMEN was officially established on July 28th, 1960, at the Y.W.C.A., 21 McGill St., Toronto, Canada, just two months after its birth as an idea.

WHAT PROGRESS?

Since then, a national office has been opened at 329 Bloor St. W., Toronto, on September 1st, 1960. This is staffed by volunteer help. The 'VOW' newsletter is now being published twice a month, since October 1st. Both the office and the

newsletter are financed entirely by members' subscriptions. The mailing list of 'persons expressing interest' has grown to over four thousand. Of these, at time of writing, some five hundred are paid up members. Again, we urge prospective members to attend to this matter. On you rests the responsibility for the success or failure of VOICE OF WOMEN. Without you there is no 'voice'.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BELONG?

Anyone who subscribes to the Declaration and Operating Procedures, and who contributes a minimum of $2.00 a year for the newsletter 'VOW', which it is hoped to publish twice a month.

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM OF VOICE OF WOMEN?

To mobilize the voices of women to speak as one in protesting war and to promote constructive approaches to problems great and small, V.O.W. proposes: -

1) To use mass media - press, radio, television - to stress the need for relaxing world tensions and increasing understanding of different races, cultures and beliefs.
2) To urge individuals and groups to be aware of the threat of universal destruction through war and the use of nuclear, thermonuclear and germ or biological weapons of war.
3) To form groups who will study, discuss the participation in programs urging all, including leaders in government, to pursue peaceful solutions to international problems.
4) To urge Canada to assume leadership wherever possible among peoples and nations to encourage peaceful resolution of differences, especially through supervised international disarmament, support of international law and order through the United Nations, strengthening the International Court of Justice and the United Nations Police Force, and through aid to less developed countries through United Nations channels.
5) To encourage international correspondence and visits in order to better understand peoples of different backgrounds.
6) To organize meetings, delegations, petitions in order to make the VOICE OF WOMEN objectives known and accepted.

IS VOICE OF WOMEN A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION?

No. VOICE OF WOMEN is not a political organization. It is a non-partisan movement. It does not attempt to prescribe exactly how war can cease to be a threat to civilization and mankind. But it takes the position that construction, not destruction, must be the objective to which the minds of men are applied: it proposes a program for its members that supports and implements that position: and it maintains that faith, not fear, should be the dominant factor in thinking and planning for the future.

IS VOICE OF WOMEN A FEMINIST MOVEMENT?

V.O.W. believes that women, as the givers of life, are particularly concerned about survival of children and have special responsibility for preserving life.

V.O.W. has been designed primarily for women, not because we believe men do not share our concern, but we believe there is a unique contribution which women can make which has not yet been fully mobilized. For years it has been said that if women would just get together for a common purpose, nothing could stop them. We think that nothing could be a greater purpose for women to serve than the very survival of the human race, hence we are attempting to prove the power of women to fulfill that purpose.
'We are one human family. Let us work together for the preservation of all life.'

HOW CAN I JOIN VOICE OF WOMEN?

Write to V.O.W., 329 Bloor St. W., Toronto; ask for the Declaration and Operating Procedures; read them. If you subscribe to the principles and objectives, send $2.00 which enrolls you as a member and for which you will receive the newsletter 'VOW'.

HOW DO I START A GROUP?

Write to V.O.W., 329 Bloor St. W., Toronto; ask for Group Development Kit and Speakers Kit. A group should start with no fewer than 10 persons. Each person must become an individual member of V.O.W., and the group must be registered with the Central Committee.

WHERE DO WE STAND?

It is not the policy or purpose of VOICE OF WOMEN to make specific proposals of a political nature on how the problems of peace should be negotiated. As we have stressed before, it is rather our function to prepare a climate in which negotiations might successfully take place. However, members are often asked, 'Where do you stand?' on certain political issues, and it is felt the following answers come within the scope of our declaration, and that VOICE OF WOMEN members would probably wish to support them, as tending to reduce international tension.

a) ON DISARMAMENT: We would support universal controlled total disarmament. How this is to be achieved is obviously a matter of the highest statesmanship, reacting to constantly changing and difficult relationships among great powers. VOICE OF WOMEN can only hope to make a positive contribution by pursuing a program which increases trust between negotiators.

b) NUCLEAR ARMS FOR CANADA: While recognizing the psychological power of the nuclear deterrent, we feel that the spread of nuclear weapons to countries other than those already involved, increases the possibility of war breaking out, and compounds the problem of disarmament. We also feel that a large group of non-nuclear nations in the U.N., can bring great influence to bear upon the 'Nuclear Club' in disarmament negotiations. For this reason, on July 28th last, the following telegram was sent to Mr. Howard Green, Mr. Lester B. Pearson and Mr. Hazen Argue, by the Central Committee of VOICE OF WOMEN: - 'At large inaugural meeting, VOICE OF WOMEN unanimously declared themselves opposed to nuclear war. Therefore we support any proposal that will keep Canada free of nuclear involvement, thereby strengthening Canada's leadership role among non-nuclear powers.' This view was supported by a very large number of our members at that time, who wrote letters to Ottawa on this subject.

c) A UNITED NATIONS POLICE FORCE: We would have confidence in a strong and permanent United Nations Peace Force, which can be called into service immediately upon need. Small fires quelled reduce the dangers of a major conflagration. Such a policing force should be recruited from the small, middle and neutral nations and under United Nations Command. Increased international law, supported by a strengthened U.N. police power would go far in securing peace.

d) CIVIL DEFENCE AND FALL-OUT SHELTERS: Since a survey of this question is at present being undertaken by VOICE OF WOMEN members, a statement will be issued on this at some later date when the results are known.

WORKING TOGETHER

THIS WEEK'S CAMPAIGN

This week we received a letter, signed 'Disgruntled V.O.W. Member', which read .....

> "Today I received my second copy of our newsletter, and immediately set down to read it. On coming to our 'Working Together' page, I was aghast at what our objective was for this month. I was under the impression, like many others, that we were for peace and peace alone. How could any clear-thinking women put peace and Civil Defence together, when their objectives are completely the opposite ? Civil Defence is a preparation for war not peace, and as such has no place in VOICE OF WOMEN."

We are sorry if this member has misunderstood the purpose of this campaign, and we bring her letter to your attention in case anyone else is under the same impression - although we have only received one other similar complaint.

This whole question of Civil Defence and fall-out shelters is a serious one. Since VOICE OF WOMEN is working for survival, and since Civil Defence also offers a program for survival, we believe this warrants our consideration. The Central Committee felt that this important matter should be placed before our members, that it should be given the fullest possible examination on a national basis in the survey we proposed, and that a statement could then be made that would reflect the opinion of our membership as to the wisdom and effectiveness of seeking survival through Civil Defence.

We want your views on this. We want those views to be based on the best information available, so that the results cannot be labelled 'hysteria' or 'emotionalism'. We ask you again to pursue this campaign with vigour: to complete the questionnaire in our last newsletter if you have not already done so: and to add, if you like, any comments on your personal experiences in compiling the information requested. With the full co-operation of all members, we are in a unique position to hold what amounts to a national public forum on this important issue.

Realizing the Civil Defence campaign might take longer than usual, we have decided to postpone the campaign announced in our last newsletter until next time. This, as we said, will involve your local M.P.s, and we ask all members who are considering forming groups to work towards this during the next two weeks, since part of the next campaign will concern inviting your M.P. to a group meeting ! Group Development kits are now available from Head Office, and are being mailed to all members who indicated willingness to form groups on their application forms. If you wish to form a group, and did not say so in your application, would you write to Mrs. Doris Dodds, c/o Head Office, and a kit will be mailed to you.

BOOKSHELF ..... by Marian Bacon

'LEVEL 7' by Mordecai Roshwald (published by Heinemann)

A recent article in the Toronto Telegram, reprinted from a London newspaper, described Headquarters, Strategic Air Command U.S.A., "the subterranean fortress from which World War III will be conducted if mankind is so criminally insane as to embark upon it."

This article, dealing with fact not fiction, brings us uncomfortably close to the world of LEVEL 7, the world presented in the diary of pushbutton officer X127, of which Dr. Linus Pauling says, "There is a possibility that the astounding series of events depicted by the author in this manuscript could in fact occur a few years from now."

Discoveries in the world of science have by now far outdistanced the wildest dreams and predictions of the science fiction writers of yesterday. As one result, today's craftsmen in this field have been having a Roman holiday. But the world of LEVEL 7 is devoid of carnival atmosphere. This is a drab and colourless world, dull and mechanistic, its inhabitants carefully chosen and systematically dehumanized to ensure adjustment to life in their invulnerable shelter, 4,000 feet below the surface of the earth - a life revolving around one purpose .... the awaiting of the order to press the buttons for the release of atomic missiles in a nuclear war.

This book provides timely and thought-provoking material in a day when citizens are being urged to build fall-out shelters in their homes, when an end to the arms race is not yet in sight. J.B. Priestly describes LEVEL 7 as "Powerful; deeply imaginative, haunting - the best comment there has been so far on the ghastly imbecility of nuclear armaments."

COMMITTEE REPORTS

V.O.W. EMBLEM: Members and friends of V.O.W. are invited to submit designs for a permanent V.O.W. emblem. It has been suggested that a design not requiring letters of any language, but expressing the voices of women calling to the world for peace would be the best symbol for international use. What do you think? Submit designs by January 1st. The winning design will bring its creator honour and praise (but no cash award!) If you like the one now being used, let us know that too. We presumed you would guess that the 'foreign' language on the front page of our newsletter is Esperanto, and was used to suggest our desire to be understood in all languages.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL: Attention V.O.W. travellers! It is possible to accompany our president on two international visits in 1961 - to Europe, including Russia, May 1st - June 15th: to Africa, July 30th-August 27th. Mrs. Tucker will be the leader and for further information address her at 329 Bloor Street West, Toronto

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

Long before I read this morning's newspaper, this issue of 'Vow' was planned to stress the need for sanity in the cold war, for a calm and reasoned approach in the face of bluster and intransigence, for cool heads where we meet hot heads, for untiring efforts to seek and initiate constructive proposals to ease international tensions, instead of merely countering those which are destructive.

In entering into the perilous cold war arena - because that is what we are doing - it is imperative that we in VOICE OF WOMEN keep these thoughts constantly in mind, otherwise we could do more harm than good: otherwise the really constructive contribution we have to make will come to nothing because we will have provided the skeptics with the evidence they want to dismiss us as a 'bunch of hysterical women'.

And so, as I said, this issue of 'Vow' has been dedicated to a plea for sane, calm and constructive strategy in the cold war. That is why we bring you excerpts from Dr. Keenlyside's speech. We believe his organization, the Committee for the Control of Radiation Hazards, exemplifies the sane approach, and that his proposals are imaginative and constructive. That is why we review Lord Bertrand Russell's book, the title of which speaks for itself, 'Common Sense and Nuclear Warfare.' That is why you will find recommendations on the following pages concerning UNICEF, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Canadian Association for Adult Education, the C.B.C. and the University of Toronto: the aspects of the work of these organizations for which we invite your support all tend towards the relief of cold war tensions, in ways which we find eminently sensible.

There are so many organizations working in their own ways for peace, so many men and women of good will, such growing opportunity for us to join hands with each other and work together. The spirit is there - the deep desire to live securely in a world truly at peace. It needs only time to be nurtured, to grow and to flourish. And it needs leadership.

This morning's newspaper carried the headline, 'U.S. Sub Roves Atlantic with H-Bomb Missiles.' A submarine, the 'George Washington', has sailed on a 'war deterrent mission' armed with hydrogen bombs that equal the destructive power of <u>all</u> the bombs dropped during World War II. If you did not experience an air raid in the last war, try to recall one you've seen in a movie. I can promise you it will be no exaggeration. Then multiply that by the hundreds of thousands of air raids that took place all over the world between 1939 and 1945. Then add Hiroshima. And Nagasaki.

Then ask yourself, is this event likely to ease cold war tensions? Does it stand the test of a constructive approach to cold war strategy? Is it reasonable to say, as Admiral Arleigh Burke, Chief of U.S. Naval Operations is quoted as saying, that if the need to fire the missiles should arise, "Your ship and the missiles it carries will contribute to the salvation of civilization, for you man the most powerful weapons systems ever devised" ? Is it sane for Vice-Admiral Grenfell to note that the ship will be at sea during the Christmas season, and to express the hope that because of its mission the annual Christmas theme of peace this year, "may really have a true significance" ?

I submit that this is the 'nuclear deterrent' policy carried ad absurdum. I submit that the line between such a deterrent and an act of provocation is indistinguishable, except for

intent - and who in Russia, for example, is likely to see in all this the best of intentions? I submit that if the positions were reversed - and we have now invited retaliation in kind - the Western world would be outraged, And I submit that this kind of leadership can only lead to disaster.

What can we do? This week's campaign involves our M.P.'s in Canada. We ask all members to read our suggestions carefully, and add to the list of questions we propose you ask your M.P. the following: -"Do you support the action of the U.S. in launching the George Washington submarine? Do you not feel that this is pushing the balance of terror to dangerous limits? If not, why not?"

These are the channels through which we must work in a democracy. This is the way in which changes in leadership can be wrought when desirable. This is the way of reason and of sanity. It may not be as dramatic as some might wish, but if we believe in democracy and want to see it prevail, this is the way it must be done. Through our Government we must try to bring Canadian opinion to bear upon those policies of other Governments which we believe can only lead us closer to nuclear annihilation.

On this occasion there may be a real opportunity of halting the drift to war, because it is possible that the advent of the 'George Washington' will demonstrate in itself the extreme danger of following the nuclear deterrent policy to its ultimate conclusion, and that it will repell all but its most fanatic adherents. We believe this because we believe that there are enough men and women of good will, with the courage now to stand up and be counted. And let us be among the first.

ON A LIGHTER NOTE: What has turned into the Great Civil Defence Debate continues! The mail is about evenly divided between those who saw no 'evil intent' in our Civil Defence campaign, and those who did.

Ladies, in keeping with our plea for a calm and reasoned approach, for cool heads, not hot heads - we ask you, what is sinister about a survey? How does investigating a situation automatically suggest one is either for or against it? If anyone can find a phrase in our second or third campaign that says, "V.O.W. supports (or, conversely, does not support) Civil Defence", the Central Committee will parade down Yonge Street in sack cloth and ashes!

A survey has to be non-committal, otherwise the results are not valid, and Mr. George Gallup would have been out of business years ago. The questions you were asked to put to your local Civil Defence authorities were designed to test not only whether it was functioning effectively but whether, in fact, there can be such a thing as effective Civil Defence in the event of nuclear war. If the views of those of you who are violently opposed to Civil Defence are justified, investigation will only bear them out and make your argument more potent. The truth, they say, will make you strong!

So, to those who accuse us of sins of varying magnitude, ranging from 'not understanding your own Declaration' to 'having secret axes to grind' - please, calm down, read our back issues again, and ask yourself, won't your case be stronger if a national survey, based on thorough investigation, proves the point your instinct tells you is right?

Josephine Davis

NOTE: Seldom have the dangers of radiation and the prospect of nuclear war been so clearly emphasized as in an address to the National Committee for the Control of Radiation Hazards last June, by its Chairman, Dr. Hugh Keenleyside, former Canadian diplomat and U.N. administrator and present Chairman of the B.C. Power Commission. We bring you extracts from his speech (the full text is available in our Speakers' Kits) not only because we think it is well worth your attention: but because we wish to emphasize how happy we are to be working in close co-operation with Dr. Keenleyside's organization in Canada. The C.C.R.H. has brances in many Canadian cities, and, particularly in Edmonton and several cities in B.C., V.O.W. and C.C.R.H. are now working together, setting up joint local committees, exchanging material, and generally combining the programs of both organizations, which are perfectly complementary. If you wish to know more about the work of the National Committee for the Control of Radiation Hazards, please contact Mrs. Mary Van Stolk at 10432 - 127th Street, Edmonton, Alta.

A PLEA FOR SANITY .... by Dr. Hugh L. Keenleyside

That the human race is predominantly insane, and that insanity peculiarly affects its chosen or accepted leaders, would seem quite plain to any inteligent visitor from another planet. How else could such a stranger explain the fact that as soon as we leave the innocence of childhood, as soon as we attain the power to reason and to influence events, we begin to plan ways of killing each other? How else explain that in the thousands of years of recorded history there has been hardly a day in which human beings have not been engaged in or organized war against each other? How else explain the fact that most of our national communities are spending about twice as much on past and present war - euphoniously called national defence - as on all other purposes combined? How else explain the fact that we can accept without a qualm the idea of incinerating hundreds of millions of women and children whom under normal conditions we should be glad to cherish, and in whom we should find gentleness and delight, except by recognizing that, being insane, we have devised political and economic and religious reasons to justify burning them to death.

(DR. KEENLEYSIDE THEN OUTLINES THE THREE TYPES OF RADIATION TO WHICH THE WORLD IS NOW EXPOSED - RADIATION FROM NATURAL SOURCES: THE IMPERFECT CONTROL OF RADIOACTIVE ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL USES: NUCLEAR TESTING)

How great are the dangers created by testing? The answer is that no-one really knows. (DR. KEENLEYSIDE CITES THE CONFLICTING OPINIONS OF SEVERAL AUTHORITIES TO SUPPORT THIS STATEMENT). In view of these facts, we who are not scientists have a clear right to demand that the tests shall be stopped unless it can be proven that they are essential for some over-riding national purpose. Do they serve any such purpose? A large group of scientists in the United States are supported by their military colleagues and by many leaders in the political life of that country in arguing that the tests must continue or the United States will lose its deterrent power and that without the deterrent war will ensue. Exactly the same arguments are doubtless being advanced by military and scientific personnel in Russia.

Fortunately our own government and that of Great Britain are working for a continuation of the ban and for a serious effort to relax the tensions that threaten a nuclear war - although we would like to see them put a little more determination and indeed passion into their arguments. Let us hope that some time some Canadian leader will really speak out and insist on being heard despite the bellicosity and posturing in Moscow and Washington. I am convinced that he would be astounded by the response from our own people, and from a tremendous majority of the governments and from the common people aroung the world.

Apart from the direct physical results of renewed testing, there is the psychological effect and its almost certain end. Surely if history teaches us anything it is that frantic competition in the production of military weapons can have only one result. Eventually they will be used. And the effects of nuclear war? (Dr. KEENLEYSIDE GIVES SOME STATISTICS ON THE POTENCY OF PRESENT NUCLEAR WEAPONS).

We may as well face it: an all-out nuclear war in which hundreds of thousands of nuclear devices would be used would mean that we all - every one of us and our wives and children and friends - would die, quickly but unpleasantly. If lucky we would die in the initial blast, otherwise we might last a few hours, or days, in varying degrees of loathsomeness and agony. And unless something drastic is done and done soon this would seem to be almost certain to happen. No one can follow the record - from 1945 until today - without discovering an obvious pattern. It is almost beyond doubt that we are moving towards the last war.

It has been argued that war will not come because of the mutual deterrent - the stalemate of shared terror. This it would be comforting to believe - but it would also be moronic. Sooner or later as the efficacy of the weapons increases, as the tension rises, as the tempers and strain become more and more unbearable, something or someone will break.

In these circumstances, what can we Canadians do? Initially we can demand a greater initiative and determination on the part of our political leaders. No one can doubt the goodwill or good intentions of Mr. Diefenbaker or Mr. Green. Nor of Mr. Pearson. But we can reasonably ask that they approach more seriously and with a greater sense of urgency the problems of Canadian policy in these days of crisis for all humanity. They invited us to elect them with the promise that they would provide effective leadership. But we did elect them and while we can properly demand that they take the lead in the search for solutions to the great dilemma, we cannot avoid our share of the task.

As an indication of the kind of thing that we might do: I suggest that we might press our Government to take a stronger hand in the U.N. by insisting day in and day out, that disarmament and peace are the only real issues before a world threatened with extinction.

Then let us show a little imagination and initiative in handling our direct relations with the potential adversary. I believe that much can be done by direct contact with Russia - not only with the Russian leaders, but with the Russian people. Why should we not propose a regular, daily exchange of radio and television programs which would enable us to see each other as we are, and not as propaganda is distorting the picture? Why should we not foster travel between our two countries on a really significant scale? It may cost something, but it is our lives that are at stake. We spend nearly $2,000 million a year on military estimates and it is obvious that our actual contribution to the defence of the West is psychological rather than intrinsic. If we took $200 million of this money we could send 100,000 Canadians to Russia and invite 100,000 Russians to Canada each year, with results that might do incalculable good. If Russia refused the offer, she would stand indicted before all people. Would it not be desirable to do in Canada what that great American statesman, Adlai Stevenson, has suggested for the United States: set up in the Government a Department of Peace and Disarmament?

If we can develop ourselves initiatives of this kind then we can, without apology, demand that the members of our Government who are responsible for foreign policy shall insist that the leaders of the Western Alliance are persistent, patient, unwearied and undismayed in their search for peace with those with whom we are in conflict. We should require of our representatives that they shall avoid any attitudes of intransigence, any insistence on unconditional surrender.

If our leaders do these things, let us support them against the inevitable attacks of the lunatic element in our own country and elsewhere that, blinded by ignorance and prejudice, would imperil all our lives, all the future of our race. If we unite in doing these things, we may again begin to believe that the present dangers may pass away, that at long last we may look forward with reasoned hope to a time when the achievements of science will bring blessings and not curses on the world.

EDITORS NOTE: This speech was delivered last June. In recent months particularly we believe that Mr. Green, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, has demonstrated at the United Nations qualities of persistence, patience and determination in pressing for disarmament negotiations. In keeping with our Declaration that V.O.W. would support "the Canadian Government in any leadership it may give at the United Nations towards the resolution of world tensions", on November 15th last your Central Committee sent the following telegram to Mr. Green: "V.O.W. SUPPORTS CANADIAN DISARMAMENT RESOLUTION AND APPEALS WITH YOU TO ALL LEADERS AT U.N. TO STOP WORLD ARMS RACE NOW". We suggest that V.O.W. individual members and groups make known to Mr. Green their opinions of the vital work he is presently engaged in. Those of us who believe he is acting with wisdom and courage have a responsibility to tell him so - partly, as Dr. Keenlyside has said, to support him against the inevitable attacks of the 'lunatic element' in Canada; and partly because, through our letters, we can play a part, however small, in the workings of the U.N. So write to Mr. Green, won't you, either at the House of Commons, Ottawa, or c/o The Canadian Delegation, United Nations, New York.

BOOK SHELF ..... by Dr. N.Z. Alcock

BERTRAND RUSSEL: Common Sense and Nuclear Warfare (Allen and Unwin)

This is a book which points out the evils of this age clearly and logically. The author deals in the first chapter with 'Brinkmanship', each manoeuvre of which brings us one step nearer the inevitable catastrophe. A time may come when the masses could choose a nuclear war rather than go on living in constant fear and horror of 'the enemy'.

In order to avoid a nuclear war, Lord Russell believes it is necessary for the Great Powers to change their policies. Both sides now think of winning a war in the old fashioned sense. This is the first proposition which must be accepted by both sides - that a nuclear war is not won by any side. Lord Russell does not allow the claim that the choice is between surrender and brinkmanship. He feels that with a change in aims the uncommitted countries can appeal to the committed on the grounds that what we all have in common is much greater than our conflicts: and the first great concern IN COMMON is survival. The second interest IN COMMON is to escape the arms race. If the present expenditures continue and increase, we cannot escape a standard of living equal to that of the poorest parts of the world. Thirdly, present tensions are harmful in the sphere of morality and emotion.

Lord Russell proposes that three immediate aims in the approach towards a stable peace should be: the abolition of nuclear tests, the prevention of the spread of weapons to powers not now possessing them, the appointment of a permanent joint body to seek measures tending towards peace and not altering the existing balance of power, We must learn, moreover, that in settling differences neither side can or should expect a diplomatic victory. In the latter part of the book there is discussion of a consiliation committee, territorial adjustments and, of course, the most vital issue of an International Authority.

COMMON SENSE AND NUCLEAR WARFARE is commended to every person who is troubled about the present day. It is a concise (92 pages), potent argument for sanity in a nuclear age.

SUGGESTIONS FROM ALL OVER!

First, two suggestions that were too late to get into the last newsletter, and we hope are not too late to be effective this time.

1) UNICEF CHRISTMAS CARDS: If you have not already bought your Christmas cards this year, we suggest you consider buying UNICEF cards. These are designed by international artists, giving freely of their talents, and are sold for $ 1.00 a box of ten cards. Half the purchase price of every box is sent to the United Nations Children's Fund to aid children and their mothers around the world. Through UNICEF just ONE CENT will protect a child from T.B., TEN CENTS will give 50 children a glass of milk, A QUARTER will protect two people from malaria for an entire year. Through UNICEF you will have invested in the future of a child somewhere in the world who needs you. For a catalogue of designs, and for cards, please contact your local branch of the United Nations Association: or write direct to the UNICEF GREETING CARD FUND, 280 Bloor Street West, Toronto 5, Ont.

2) BEGINNING RUSSIAN: If you haven't already noticed, the C.B.C., in co-operation with the University of Toronto, have started a unique experiment in teaching Russian via television, at 12 noon every Saturday and Sunday. At present this series is available to viewers in the Toronto area. We think it is an excellent idea for V.O.W. members, particularly in view of the fact that early next year we shall be initiating correspondence on a wide scale with Russian women. Even if we could only throw in the occasional Russian word or phrase in our letters, we feel it would be powerful evidence of our wish to achieve better understanding. Those members of V.O.W. outside the Toronto area who do not have access to this program, and who would like to follow it, we suggest you to contact your local TV station and ask them to carry it. In the meantime, for full information write to the Division of University Extension, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ont.

3) Then, from the Vancouver Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom comes this suggestion. DISARM YOUR CHILDREN ! In a pamphlet which we feel merits our consideration during the Christmas shopping period, the W.I.L.P.F. asks parents to protest warlike playthings, and to boycott them in the stores. Stores, they say, will not stock war toys if they do not sell well. They ask us to prepare the minds of our children for a peaceful tomorrow by ending games based upon the horrors of war. It's worth a thought, isn't it, when we are giving and receiving children's gifts this Christmas ?

4) OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENCE: Mrs. Tanner thanks all V.O.W. members who have written requesting a correspondent overseas, and asks them to be patient if they have not yet received a reply. She points out that it takes considerable time and thought to match correspondents successfully. In the meantime, some members have volunteered to help Mrs. Tanner in her work, which we hope will ease the load somewhat. Those of you who are interested in writing to an English-speaking correspondent overseas, we repeat, please contact Mrs. Pattie Tanner, Box 178, Markham, Ont., enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

THIS WEEK'S CAMPAIGN

As we announced in the last newsletter, this campaign will involve your local M.P.

Back in August, at the suggestion of both Mr. Howard Green and Mr. Lester Pearson, every M.P. in Canada was sent a copy of V.O.W.'s Declaration and program. Many replied, many did not. Of those who replied, some were polite but non-committal, a very few were slightly sceptical, an encouraging number were enthusiastic and sent us lists of names of women in their constituencies whom they thought would be interested in V.O.W. We do not propose to tell you who did what - when you embark on this week's campaign you'll find out for yourself!

As we've said before, making democracy work is everybody's responsibility, and this week we propose that V.O.W. pay more than lip service to the concepts of democracy. Each of you are represented by someone on Parliament Hill. Electing them is not enough. If they are to do their job properly, they should know how their constituents feel on the vital issues of the day. If you feel you have no 'voice' in the nation's affairs, you have only yourself to blame - you probably haven't used the most direct method of communication that our democratic system affords - your Member of Parliament. We can promise you that if you write to your M.P. as one of his (or her) constituents, you'll get an answer. We can promise you that if every M.P. is getting letters from V.O.W. members on the subjects we suggest below, the word will get around, and the 'VOICE' OF WOMEN will begin to be heard where it counts - on Parliament Hill.

We suggest that your letter include these points, as well as any others of course that you may wish to raise: -

a) I am a V.O.W. member and why.

b) What do you (the M.P.) think of V.O.W.?

c) What will you do as my elected representative to further the aims and program of V.O.W. in the coming session of Parliament?

d) How would you describe Canada's present defence policy? Specifically how worthwhile an investment is the Bomarc? How do you feel about the stationing of nuclear weapons on Canadian soil, and the arming of Canadian forces with nuclear weapons?

e) What are your views on disarmament?

If your M.P.'s answers to these questions satisfy you, well and good. But we would suggest you remind him (or her - there are four ladies in Ottawa now!) from time to time that he said such-and-such a thing if you feel things are a little slow.

If your M.P.'s answers do not satisfy you, we suggest you let him know. If necessary embark on an exchange of correspondence with him on points over which you differ. But we strongly urge that you arm yourself with all the facts before getting into such a discussion. There is informed opinion on both sides of many of these questions. Know the facts, decide where you stand, and then you can defend your opinion against all comers. We don't pretend this is easy - no one said joining V.O.W. was easy - no one said winning the peace was easy - no one said making democracy work was easy. But it's the way of sanity, and we can tread firmly and confidently where we are sure of our ground.

There is quite a lot of material in previous issues of our newsletter to provide you with 'ammunition'. We also strongly recommend a booklet put out by the Canadian Association for Adult Education called 'Canada's Defence Policy'. This booklet is available from Head Office, 329 Bloor Street West, at 20 ¢ a copy (you can send stamps for this amount, if you like). Please write in for it. Individual members will find it invaluable in providing informed opinion on many matters which vitally concern V.O.W. Groups will find a wealth of material for discussion, as well as additional bibliography. This booklet presents both sides of many of the problems which are puzzling our own and world leaders today. It is completely non-committal. It leaves you to decide which arguments you consider the most potent, and gives you the points to justify it.

If you remember, in our last newsletter, we also suggested that groups might invite their M.P. to one of their meetings. Since then a session of Parliament has been called, but we ask groups to bear this possibility in mind, and to pave the way for such a meeting eventually with the sort of correspondence we have proposed.

So go to it! Find out where your M.P. stands on V.O.W., and if necessary be prepared to do battle with him on the subject - but intelligently, knowledgeably, and with a cool head!

(And drop that line to Mr. Green too as suggested on page 5, remember ?) remember ?)

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

No matter where you go this time of the year, you're bound to see or hear the words, "Peace on earth: goodwill toward men." Bright, shining words - part of the Christmas decorations like the coloured lights and the tinsel on the tinsel on the tree. By the middle of January, of course, it would be a little disturbing to see a house still resplendent with lights and candy canes and Santa on the roof. It would be unseasonable. By the middle of January it will also be unseasonable and disturbing to many people to hear the words "peace on earth."

Since I've been working on VOICE OF WOMEN, I've learned a curious and saddening fact of life. That 'peace' is an unacceptable word in some circles. That's why I wanted to share this cartoon with you. I've met so many people to whom it applies - and probably you have too. People who say, you have to be careful. That if you are actively concerned about "peace", you are likely to earn some kind of "label". (The quotation marks are not mine. They are audible in any conversation that follows these lines!) Sometimes they come right out and say, "But the Communists always talk about peace." So - - and I say it with all reverence - did Jesus Christ. When they sing their carols this Christmas, the 'careful' ones - when they send their cards proclaiming the seasonal message of peace and goodwill, do they really think about when it was said, and why it was said? Or when December is ober, will such thoughts be tidies away with the rest of the Christmas trimmings?

Those of us who have helped organize this movement, feel most deeply that it would be tragic if one of the most noble instincts of the human spirit - (the desire to live securely in a world at peace) - should be denied purposeful expression in our society for reasons that are not reasonable: for fears so tenuous and so formless, that to fight them is to fight a shadow.

"I'm afraid of it, Barker. It's a little strong, and it could be misinterpreted."

We believe that if democracy is to survive as a way of life, we must promote our concept of peace through freedom with vigour and determination. How can we hope to convince the rest of the world that a democratic society is a peaceful society, if its citizens are afraid to use the very word!

And so, at this Christmas time, VOICE OF WOMEN begins its campaign for better international understanding. Most of this newsletter is a gesture of friendship and goodwill towards Japan - a country with whom we were at war not too long ago. We are asking members to take a special interest in Japan to read a little about it, to write to a Japanese woman and find out how she lives and what she does - and to extend to her an invitation to find out more about us. It's a start in putting VOICE OF WOMEN to work internationally. It is a start on the long road to which we have all set our feet. Let's make it a good start.

And we wish you all, now and always . . . . . peace.

JOSEPHINE DAVIS

IN THE NEWS:

Recently one of our sponsors, Mrs. Josie Quart added another achievement to her long and distinguished career in public life when she was appointed to Canada's Senate. We are most happy to have this opportunity to offer our congratulations to Mrs. Quart, and there could be no better way of introducing our newest Senator to V.O.W. members than by bringing you this lively profile by Lotta Dempsey of the Toronto Daily Star.

OTTAWA—The senator was playing a cha-cha piano accompaniment to her grandson on the traps, when word came her maiden speech was set for three days hence.

"I wasn't going to break into our usual Sunday with the family," Josie Quart said, firmly. "So I just sat up most of the night Monday."

Canada's newest member (and fourth woman) in the Upper House went on sifting through stacks of congratulatory telegrams in her temporary office in the Parliament Buildings. Her husband Harry, a genial grey-haired Canadian of Irish extraction with a genial twinkle and a ready wit, was moving things about in a practised manner.

"The wonderful thing is the response of women of every kind of organization, religion and interest, to the appointment of another woman to the Senate" she said, warmly.

After a couple of hours with the fourth-generation Quebec born Canadian who pioneered in votes for women in her provinces, has been involved in everything from Girl Guides to the United Nations, loves to make hats and calls in the clan of four sons, one daughter, their spouses and 22 grandchildren for a roaring family get-together in the old homestead every Sunday, I suggest one thing.

Livelier Place

The Senate is going to be a livelier place from now on. It may, in fact, never be the same.

For, having been a going concern for the 44 years of her happily married life, she won't pull up and say "whoa . . ." now. And Harry's right in there punching with her.

A newspaper advertising man when they married (she was 16) and for many years head of a successful contracting business, he alway made it a rule to take Josie with him on business trips. Listening to this vital, entertaining woman it is easy to understand why.

"And now Harry goes everywhere I go, too. The boys can look after the business when he's away. We've been married too long to change the pattern" she said, affectionately, as he nodded.

"Everywhere" has included journeys to Geneva, Buenos Aires and New York as Canadian representative on the status of Women Commission in the U.N. these past three years.

And innumerable visits to various parts of Canada in connection with her myriad good works and organization interests — including that of national president of the Progressive Conservative Women's association.

Her maiden speech to the Senate was made on her work — and Canada's representation — on the status of women commission, and its importance in the U.N. and around the world.

— Senator Quart feels women have a great deal to contribute to the nation; particularly in an active way, when the family-raising phase of their lives is completed.

"I hope all the women who have ideas and suggestions will write to me," she said, earnestly, "they are very important people in our democracy and have a lot of excellent help to give."

SEN. QUART, OUR NEWEST

WHY I JOINED "VOICE OF WOMEN"

by Norma Swanston, Secretary Central Committee

I joined VOICE OF WOMEN because I firmly believe there is a great deal that women can do to help in the world situation today, and as a Christian I could not refuse the invitation to unite with all other women who feel the same way and are willing to sacrifice and work together in this cause.

Last June, in answer to a woman columnist's anguished call - "There must be something women can do!" - I wrote a letter, and eventually found myself working with the small group of women who initiated what has swiftly become a significant national movement. It has been a great challenge for us all and one, I think, we have responded to in different ways according to our training, experience, our personality and faith.

For myself, business experience in the field of women's personnel and industrial relations had provided some insight into the complex machinery of our world, and the important part each individual plays in its operation. Then, as a homemaker, it has long seemed to me that the qualities required for success in this most familiar area of women's endeavour can no longer be confined to the home and family alone. Whatever it is that a woman contributes to the security and well-being of her children in a happy home - those qualities are needed in the world at large today as never before. More and more women must respond to this need, and through VOICE OF WOMEN I believe their influence can be felt.

Finally, I felt a tremendous sense of responsibility in teaching teen-age girls in Sunday School, helping to prepare them to take their places in society. VOICE OF WOMEN challenged my faith in a God of Love who has given to us so bountifully, and to whom we must give in return. It has been a valuable and stimulating experience for me to meet with fellow members of our movement - women of widely differing backgrounds and beliefs - and to find such unity in our desire to give a gift of understanding and love that will bind together all mankind. We have all something unique and personal to give - something of value,

This is the season of giving. The greatest gift we can give is the gift of ourselves, all that we are, all that we have - of time, talents and possessions towards creating in the world today the spirit of that first Christmas long ago - "Peace on Earth, Goodwill towards Men."

Last summer Janet and Pierre Berton visited Japan. In this article Janet recalls for VOICE OF WOMEN those aspects of her trip which prompted our decision to make Japan the focal point of our first overseas campaign.

THE JAPANESE WOMAN - A POTENTIAL "VOICE"

by Janet Berton

Today's traveller probably arrives in Japan fully expecting to find the traditional charm of cherry blossoms and kimono-clad maidens posed on an arched bridge with a Shinto shrine in the background. He won't be disappointed. They're there, these serene and timeless reminders of the old world - but they exist side by side with a rapidly developing westernized culture in which the woman's role is becoming increasingly important.

Women's problems have received special attention in modern Japan. Special ministries have been set up to look after working women with small children, and to restrict hours of work. Women are not allowed to work late at night, for example, and even the geishas are escorted home in their rickshas before midnight.

One aspect of women's activities in Japan that particularly interested me as a member of VOICE OF WOMEN was the great number of groups devoted to anti-war ideas, and international friendship organizations. A woman columnist on the Japan Times, the big influential English language daily in Tokyo, told me there were usually several different organizations of this kind meeting every day - and she said, incidentally, that she would be delighted to help publicize letters from Canadian Women wishing to correspond with women in Japan.

During our stay in Tokyo I visited one of these organizations, called "Friends of the World Inc" - a non-profit group formed in 1948 with an impressive list of respected and responsible names on the board of directors. Some of their activities include the exchanging of national dolls, seeds (e.g. cherry blossom trees), handicrafts, letters, photos and so on. The day I was there the Mothers' Club was sponsoring a fashion show of national costumes with all the embassies represented. Many of the pretty wives and daughters of the ambassadors modelled the gowns. Most of the guests spoke English along with their national language, and one pretty Filipino woman told me she had just arrived and was starting her classes in Japanese immediately. I discovered she was an exceptional soul, as most embassy personnel feel they will be stationed in Japan for such a short time, it isn't worth the trouble. Japanese is apparently a very difficult language to learn. Even the Japanese admit that. However, a great many Japanese read and speak English, even though their accents are sometimes a little off, like our French learned only from books. And it occurred to me that perhaps the reason they learn other languages is because they, of all peoples, appreciate what the one-world idea really means. They are the ones who suffered through Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

When we arrived in Hiroshima one Saturday afternoon, the skies were leaden and the rain was pouring down. Everything looked bleak, Premier Ikeda was just leaving the hotel after a political meeting and was accompanied by a cheering crowd. Another car was wildly cheered too, and our guide told us it was a woman member of the cabinet.

Next to the Hotel New Hiroshima - a bread-new (naturally) modern hotel - is the peace memorial building, one of several dedicated to those who were killed in the blast of August 6, 1945. There is a day's difference in time in Japan because of the International Date Line.

Inside is the most horrifying display that could be imagined - pictures of the dreadfully burned victims, pieces of burned clothing, finger nails, shreds of skin, melted granite and steel, all in glass cases with descriptions in both Japanese and English, descriptions I found all the more shocking because the style of writing was so matter-of-fact.

At the time of the bomb, I was a reporter on "The Vancouver Daily Province". I can remember the excitement in the office that day, as we realized this was no ordinary event. I was assigned to call Dr. Gordon M. Shrum, then, I believe, Head of the Department of Physics at U.B.C. He said, yes, research had been going on in theory about such a blast and outlined how it would take place.

But until I saw the actual museum of horrors in Hiroshima, I had not even partially envisaged the effects of the bomb. I had not pictured that schoolyard full of small boys and girls, ready to file in to the same Sousa marches played in Canadian schools. I had not realised that the first blast seared them all like meat in a hot oven. I had somehow imagined flames, but that did not come till about twenty minutes later. The heat itself, and the blast, ripped the skin off their bodies.

At the Atomic Bomb Commission Hospital in Hiroshima, everyone in the vicinity at the time of the blast is regularly checked. American and Japanese personnel run the hospital and we interviewed various people associated with it. Complete and complicated records are kept on everyone. There was also an international hematology convention in Tokyo while we were there, and we interviewed several doctors doing research on the effects of radiation. The papers they read told of the leukemia rate in the vicinity of Hiroshima being twice that of the national average. And for those who had been within two kilometres of the A-bomb explosion centre, the Leukemia rate was 18 times the national average.

So far many of the doctors, with usual scientific caution, are reluctant to express opinions about the effect on future generations. They say there have not yet been anough generations to make a conclusive statement. But our guide told us that some of the Hiroshima doctors feel that the Atomic Bomb Commission Hospital figures do not give a true picture of the grim toll of the bomb. They do not say that the figures are loaded, exactly, but they imply that not everything has been counted.

Loaded or not, the stark reality of that flattened city, and the realization that nuclear weapons are in existence today that make the first A-bomb look like a fire-cracker, should make Hiroshima an ideal place for the United Nations to carry on their disarmament negotiatons.

And VOICE OF WOMEN would, I believe, get a favorable reception in all parts of Japan from mothers who have a special reason to know about the devastation of nuclear war.

This article, condensed from "Holiday" magazine, sees Japan from another angle. It is light-hearted but in its own way, we believe, it contributes much to the understanding of a people who are the product of a civilization and culture quite different from our own. The writer is an American industrial designer who visited Japan as a working guest of the Japanese Government.

UPSIDE-DOWN IN JAPAN

by George Nelson

To go to Japan and fall in love at first sight is, one suspects, about par for the course. It took me somewhat longer, but when the inevitable surrender came it was more than a case of mere infatuation.

Japan's cultural contributions have been known to the West for a long time: her prints, flower arrangements, gardens, architecture, calligraphy and poetry. What I did not know was that behind these expressions is a logic that is not our kind of logic.

I remember two conversations which occurred within a day of each other, one with a distinguished old Japanese, the other with a distinguished foreigner who had spent much of his working life in Japan. Both men told me essentially the same thing: that the most significant difference between Japan and the West is that we operate on the basis of 90-percent emotion and 10-percent intellect, while in Japan the proportions are exactly reversed.

We learned as school children that everything Oriental was backwards. Japanese saws and planes for instance, cut when you pull instead of when you push. Once you have tried these marvellous tools, however, you are not quite so sure who is "backwards". And so it was with many things: I am not so sure any more, after a series of thoroughly educational shocks, that we have all the answers. That is what most of these little stories are about.

PRIVACY! Nothing compares with the shock of discovering that a highly cultivated nation such as Japan does not share many of our most cherished notions regarding personal privacy.

When I made a trip to Kyoto, an acquaintance, the editor of a Japanese publication, arrived with his secretary at my hotel less than 24 hours after my arrival. Summoned to his quarters for tea, I entered a large room overlooking the river, where I encountered quantities of half-unpacked luggage. I'd seen the editor and his secretary not long before, and we fell into animated conversation. As the talk went on, the secretary decided to get out of the Western suit in which she had been travelling and to change to a kimono. What followed was one of the most mobile changes of costume I have ever witnessed.

Japanese rooms generally have screens scattered about, and these were used when strategic garments were removed. There was nothing familiar or immodest about the proceeding. She merely wanted to change her clothes without missing any of the conversation. I recall a vague feeling that I was beginning to understand something. Two nights later the feeling was no longer vague.

I was returning to my room after brushing my teeth in the central washroom, when I noticed a light coming through a carved wood grille high in the corridor wall. I peered through the grille, and there, exposed in all details, was my room. I realized how privacy is achieved. There are no locks on the sliding doors, and the maids are constantly popping in and out. I had wondered how it happened that a maid never entered at an awkward moment. It was the grille. If a glance through it showed the moment to be unpropitious, she went away.

I learned that privacy is not a matter of walls and locks on doors. Privacy is in the mind. It was like having a millstone, that had been there for years without my knowing, gently and lovingly lifted from my shoulders.

RESERVE: If it were possible to set a North American residential street alongside its Japanese counterpart, one of the profound differences between East and West would immediately become apparent. Our house fronts are there to be seen: front yards are visibly in use: garages and their collections of miscellany are on view. Our street is electric with silent messages: the Smiths are leaving for the week-end: the Browns are redoing their living room: the Joneses have a new lawnmower. A Japanese street is only fence and trees. Nothing tells you whether the owners of a Japanese house are at home or away, whether their taste is good or bad, their bank account fat or thin.

One time in Kyoto, I had a reservation at a small inn. The taxi driver had trouble finding it, and on arrival it was easy to see why: all that was visible from the street was a narrow, cluttered alley between two shops. But beyond the entrance gate was an exquisitely peaceful and beautiful interior: in my room, spotless straw matting was on the floor, a balcony opened to a glorious view of the river. Who would have guessed that all this lay beyond an all-but-hidden entrance? That is precisely the point: you aren't supposed to know.

We in the West seem to prefer our experience in one fast gulp. We often use first names at the instant of introduction, put picture windows on the public sides of our houses. Everything must be visible instantly: we have no patience with an experience that unfolds in its own way, and at its own pace. Reserve in Japan has little to do with a desire to hide anything. It has more the meaning of "in reserve". Behind the fenced borders of a Kyoto street there is mystery, offering no end of delightful surprises when penetrated. Furthermore, there is no end to the mysteries, and no end to the surprises.

UNPOLICED THOUGHT: Some of the old ideas of Japan may be more subversive than the new ideas of the U.S.S.R. Take the idea of "nothing". On my return to New York a newspaper editor asked me about Japanese "progress" in the use of major appliances. I had two items of news for the editor: Japan, like any other industrial nation, manufactures major appliances. However, standard equipment for preparing a meal is often one water tap, two gas burners and a dozen lumps of charcoal. Money has something to do with this, of course. But there is also a deeply rooted feeling that there are special values in the idea of "nothing".

A widely admired garden near Kyoto consists entirely of rocks and an expanse of raked sand. From the viewpoint of the nurseryman this is "nothing" indeed. For the West, "nothing" is a lack, the absense of something. The Orient takes another point of view. The ultimate in luxury involves the fullest employment of all the senses, and requires little in the way of apparatus: the less the better. For rapt contemplation a blossom is better than a bouquet, a leaf is better than a tree. In such a view, a multiplicity of possessions can be an actual deterrent to enjoyment. So can too much comfort.

AFFIRMATION: If Russians are associated with "nyet", then "hai" is the word for the Japanese. "Hai" means "yes", but "yes" in Japanese can mean anything. This is difficult for a foreigner, but it is not much easier, I am told, for the Japanese.

If you tell a clerk in a store that your purchase must arrive by such and such a time, he will answer "yes". This does not mean that the purchase will arrive, though the stores are good about this kind of thing. It might mean, "I heard you". Or, "It is gratifying to learn that you have such a definite idea of a proper time for delivery." Or, "There isn't a prayer of our doing what you ask, but who am I to commit the unparalleled rudeness of telling you so?"

Some years ago the late Frank Lloyd Wright explained to me why he always had good relations with his clients. The secret, Wright said, was to say "Yes". Thus, if a client expressed a desire for a rectangular living-room and Wright has something

else in mind, he might say "Yes" - and think how much better it would be if it came out circular. But let us not be too hasty in awarding architect Wright the credit for this ploy. It just happens that he spent four years - during the building of Tokyo's Imperial Hotel - in Japan.

GIFT: The delights of shopping in Japan are due as much to the hospitable shopkeepers as to the merchandise. I devoted every free moment to assiduous, sometimes reckless shopping, and thus enjoyed a series of agreeable social experiences, one of which in particular stays with me.

I collect miniatures (objects made at a scale of one inch to the foot) to use as decorative props for scale models of interiors. Tokyo friends who knew of this interest turned up one Sunday morning with the news that they had located the finest miniatures shop in all Japan. It was fine indeed, and I discovered there one item after another to buy, most of them made by the proprietor himself. His wife came in presently to see what was going on. Both were enchanted to see a customer spending so much money, and they were emphatic in saying so.

Not to be outdone, I indicated through one of my companions that while I was notorious in my native region as the most miserly of characters, such was the quality, craftsmanship and beauty of their products that I was now abandoning the habits of a lifetime. In no time at all the place was waist-deep in compliments, and when my friends finally dragged me out, several things had been added to my purchases as a gift.

A few days later another friend, a young importer named Sasaki, said to me casually, "Hear you bought a lot of stuff on Sunday." I admitted to having been carried away by the sight of so many nice things in one shop. He said, "Those people never give anything away, yet when you left, they gave you a gift. Do you remember what you said?"

"I must have said, 'Thank you.' "

"Let me refresh your memory. I have heard that the owner said he was making you a gift because only a true artist could have such a sensitive appreciation of another artist's work. You replied that you were grateful for the compliment, but that both of you knew the real reason he was giving you a present was that he was sorry for a beat-up, aging designer of no consequence who was losing all his hair."

The Tokyo grapevine, as usual, was accurate. Sasaki kept eying me. "A Japanese of good breeding might have said what you did," he went on. "But how did you know that was the right thing to say to the shopkeeper?"

I hadn't known; it was strictly impulse. The gift had actually been two gifts: some pretty little objects, and another glimmer of understanding.

BOOK SHELF

"Hiroshima" - by John Hersey, (published by Knopf, 1946)

"Hiroshima" is an intimate and moving account of the disaster that befell the first city to wither under the explosion of an atomic bomb. The story is told in terms of an immediate experience of six people who survived - a clerk in the East Asia tin works: two physicians: an impoverished widow with three children: a German missionary priest: and the pastor of a Japanese Methodist church. By this device, the catastrophe is presented in terms of happenings to individuals, which the individual reader can appreciate and comprehend, rather than in terms of the numbing over-all figures that submerge and include the inconveni ence, impoverishment, pain, maiming and death of hordes of individuals.....

Hiroshima was a battle, of course. It was the final systematization of the war upon civilians that goes by the polite name of strategic bombardment. It was a battle between eleven men in a four-engined airplane and thirty thousand times that number of men, women and children on the ground.

Hersey draws no explicit morals in "Hiroshima". He is concerned entirely with clear and objective reporting. It seems to me impossible, however, for anyone to read "Hiroshima" without drawing morals for himself.
(taken from a review by Louis Ridenour in "The Saturday Review", Nov.2nd, 1946)

"Living Japan" - by Dr. Donald Keene, (published by Doubleday & Co. Inc.)

Subtitled, "The Land, The People and Their Changing World", this is an exceptional book on Japan - as anyone who has hunted for books on Japan in the library will quickly find out. Most books were either written before the war, in which case they emphasize the quaintness of it all: or during the war, when they were the enemy, of course.

Dr. Keene, who is associate professor of Japanese at Columbia University, has a remarkable reputation as a Japanese scholar. He has studied at universities in Japan, he has translated many Japanese books, and has written in Japanese for Japanese publications. He has even appeared on the Tokyo stage in a traditional theatre performance.

His book is a delight to look at and, after reading innumerable tourist bureau booklets, a real education to read. It covers past and present Japan, and points out the startling revolution that has taken place there since its opening to the outside world a mere century ago. "Living Japan," is full of information for the traveller or student. Dr. Keene describes in expert and interesting detail the age-old religions of the country, the customs of the people, their costumes, rigid social systems, education and politics. In fact, if you are seriously concerned about knowing and understanding more of our fascinating and sometimes enigmatic neighbours across the Pacific, and you only have time for one book on the subject, then make "Living Japan" that book. (by Janet Berton)

THIS WEEK'S CAMPAIGN - JAPAN

For us in Canada the month of December is filled with the spirit of giving and of goodwill among men, so V.O.W. has chosen this month to launch our campaign of international understanding and goodwill through correspondence.

Jan Berton has told us that the women and mothers of Japan are deeply concerned about the problems of international discord and nuclear war, as we are: and she has reminded us that they have the realities of such a war to remember. It is time for women both to remember and to forget - to forget the wrongs done to us and to remember the injuries we have done to others, and to make a supreme effort now to proclaim the brotherhood of man and the oneness of mankind for whom women must now declare their responsibility.

We ask you to write a short but heart-felt letter to "A Friend in Japan". Speak of yourself, your feelings about the world today, and how V.O.W. hopes to be a power for peace through better understanding and the unity of women around the world. Ask questions about Japanese family life, and what is important to women in Japan today. Say you want to know them better, because only through knowledge will come understanding and the submerging of differences for the greater good of family of man. Ask them if they will join us in our efforts to cross international barriers in the search for peace.

Complete and clip the brief form below and attach it to your letter: it will help in matching you with a suitable correspondent in Japan. Then send your letter to the national office, V.O.W., 329 Bloor St. West, Toronto, with the envelope clearly marked JAPAN in the bottom left-hand corner. We are arranging with our distribution centres in Japan for your letters to be handled over there, and we will forward them all together early in January. Please get your letters into head office before January 7th so that they can be sent to Japan at that time.

We ask every member - (there are now close to 1,500 with over a hundred new memberships coming in every week) - to take part in this campaign. We have contacts with newspaper people in Japan who will be glad to publicize this gesture of friendship from the women of Canada. Let's give them a really good story, by giving them a really significant number of letters. And let's not lose this opportunity, any one of us, of interpreting the spirit of Christmas in a new and meaningful way.

CLIP THIS AND ATTACH TO YOUR LETTER

Name.....Address.....

No. of children (if any) and their ages .....

.....

Special Interests (such as job, hobby, husband's work, etc.....

.....

.....

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

On December 5th the following letter went out to all V.O.W. members in the Toronto area from our newly formed Toronto Theatre Night Committee. We would like to bring it to the attention of members across Canada, partly because this is a fund-raising campaign to help meet our national expenses, partly because it might help our regional committees with any plans they might have along the same lines, and partly because we feel everyone should know what our problems are and how we are meeting them. The letter read: -

"Dear Member: Enjoy an evening at the theatre and help V.O.W. ! We are expanding at the rate of over 100 new members a week. To keep pace with our rapidly growing organization, it has been necessary to employ an Office Manager, and promotional expenses such as printing and postage have been unusually heavy. You c help your Finance Committee 'balance the budget', and it won't hurt at all. Here's how: ATTEND V.O.W.'s CREST THEATRE NIGHT, WESNESDAY, DECEMBER 28th. We can promise you a really festive Holiday occasion and a chance to meet fellow members of V.O.W. See you at the Crest ! (Signed) TOBY ROBINS"

This was followed by a telephone campaign to our Toronto members, and quite extensive publicity on radio, TV and in the newspapers. We are expecting a good turn-out on December 28th, and an enjoyable evening. We are also planning a much larger, more serious event, in the early Spring locally, and we'll have more news of that later.

VOICE OF WOMEN is going remarkably well, as you'll see in our next newsletter - but our problem has been that we do not have surplus funds of any size. No backer - no 'angel' ! Just the membership subscriptions, and the occasional member who gives a little extra. We have sent out ten thousand pamphlets and extra newsletters at the request of our members, nearly two hundred group kits, there have been five issues of the newsletter in three months, and we have to have paid office staff (as well as our invaluable volunteers) to cope with the really enormous amount of work.

This it not an appeal for funds. The membership fee is set at $ 2.00, as we felt th would encourage a wide response - and this is proving to be true. Any money we need w hope we can raise through events in which members can participate. In the meantime, we have worked out a brief list of costs for those of you who have been asking for large quanti ties of printed material - these prices are still below cost - : 100 'Why V.O.W.?' Pamphlet $1.00, 100 Declarations $ 2.00, 100 Newsletters $ 5.00.

REMINDER TO TORONTO MEMBERS: If you find at this late date you can still ge to the Crest on December 28th, please 'phone Hu.9-4452 or Hu.3-4128. There may be a few tickets left. It's worth a try.

MEMO. TO WOMEN'S EDITORS & COLUMNISTS: If you have done V.O.W. stories in your papers, could you please send clippings to Mrs. Davis, Editor of 'Vow' by 3rd January ? Members have mentioned many stories which we have not seen - and the January issue will be a round-up of V.O.W. news from all over the country. We should like to include your story if possible - even if the issue runs to 50 pages (then we will have to raise some money in a hurry !)

VOICE OF WOMEN
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME MR. / MRS. / MISS _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ TELEPHONE _____

1. Are you interested in forming a group in your neighbourhood? _____
2. Do you wish to be an individual member? _____
3. Have you recommendations for new members among your friends and relatives? (Please list)

4. I can devote spare time in a voluntary manner for V.O.W. _____
   The times most suited to me would be:
   Mornings /___/ Afternoons /___/ Evenings /___/
5. I can type /___/ I use shorthand /___/ I speak the following foreign languages _____
6. I have a typewriter available: at home /___/ Outside /___/
7. I belong to the following organizations or groups and will / will not / be willing to solicit their interest and support.

   _____
8. Do you wish to be a subscriber to 'Vow', the official bi-weekly newsletter of VOICE OF WOMEN, at $2.00 per year, which also entitles you to membership in VOICE OF WOMEN? _____

DATE _____ SIGNED _____

- -

FOR USE OF OFFICE ONLY

Application received by: _____

Subscription to 'Vow' received: _____

Date: _____ Receipt No: _____